

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A MINIMALIST APPROACH TO IMPLEMENTING SERVER SELECTION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Server selection is optimized using randomness, feedback, and fanout. A central
5 server maintains a vector of server selection probabilities and provides a subset of
candidate servers from the vector for the client in response to receiving from a client a
request for a server address to provide substantive service. An interrogating node (i.e.,
the client or DNS proxy) probes the candidate servers and selects a best server based on
at least one criterion. The client accesses the selected server for the substantive data,
10 and the selected server updates a counter used to keep track of the number of times the
server is selected. The servers feedback the number of times selected to the central
server, which, in turn, updates weightings in the vector of server selection probabilities.